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## The Life of Parliament Unanimously Extended For a Whole Year.

### Sir Wilfrid Laurier Thrills House With His Eloquent Address.

Ottawa, Feb. 8.—Canada's Parliament has unanimously asked the imperial authorities to extend its life for one year to avoid the grave and serious responsibility of the struggle in which the Dominion is proudly playing the role of a real part stand first in the minds of the men who rightly represent the thought and spirit of its fellow-Canadians.

Introduction of the resolution and the speeches of the two leaders were the only business of the day, as it was Parliament's first real task of the session, superseding the Government would have it, what might have been considered the first duty of providing ways and means of continuing Canada's share in the war. Sir Robert Borden prefaced his plea for an extension with the intimation that if the Opposition did not support the Government would promptly withdraw it, and "consider its course of action." The resolution was introduced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The Premier spent considerable time explaining why the Government had decided not to appeal to the country last year. He pointed out the crowded condition of all war measures, and the country seemed unanimously against an election. He said the Government had considered whether it would be to depart from the constitution and defer the election until 1917. Sir Robert maintained the Government wanted to put its full energy into the war, which would probably last, according to his best information, until at least as far as time in 1917.

He thought now that the issue of the war transcended all considerations of party and politics, and that mistake had been made, and so far as we saw in Canada, as in other parts of the world, the people had decided the overwhelming responsibility which he and his colleagues were to bear. He said he felt that the Liberals might not consent to the extension, he quoted Sir Wilfrid Laurier's words to the Young Liberal Federation that he would not "open the door of office to any party but the Liberal party." He said editorial extracts from Liberal newspapers, appealing to the Government to plan for the future, as a war-time election. Most of the editorial were based on the impression that last year the Government must contemplate an election.

**SIR WILFRID'S DECLARATION.**  
"Interest centered in the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of his Majesty's loyal Opposition. The long-improved Commons chamber was crowded to overflowing, and Sir Wilfrid's declaration that the House must be absolutely of one opinion in regard to the extension of the war was unanimously received. The great gathering listened with close attention while Sir Robert Borden read the resolution which he had prompted the Government to submit the resolution. Then Sir Wilfrid rose.

It was a great speech. Opinions in the corridors upon its conclusion—enthusiasm, shared and unshared, by veterans of both political parties—designated it as one of the finest delivered ever presented to the House of Parliament. Through it there throbbled, virtue and devotion, the earnestness of the Opposition to do its utmost to the most consecrated and efficient service in civilization's great and glorious struggle. Sir Wilfrid's words flashed fire, were touched with persuasion, rang with the ringing appeal of a man who had heard of heights of eloquence rarely heard even from himself. The deep earnestness, combined with the intensity of his convictions, gave unusual resonance to his tones. There was memorable and dramatic force to the force of youth and passion—in the striking manner in which the grand old man of Canada paraphrased the burning sentences of the Liverpool laborer: "If Germany wins," Sir Wilfrid explained, "the world will be unlifted, nothing else in God's world matters."

**SIR WILFRID RENEWS PROMISE.**  
Sir Wilfrid renewed the promise he had given and kept since the beginning of the war that prompt action would be given to the House for the successful prosecution of the war. But to all who were present the Opposition owed it to themselves and to the State to offer resistance to the utmost of their power. He reviewed the great issue at stake in the war Sir Wilfrid declared that the Government did not oppose the resolution after considering what was best for the nation and best for the constitution of all parts of the people.

"All pale before the greater issue," he declared, "the issue of the war, the Empire, and civilization is the issue."

He prolonged cheering Sir Wilfrid declared his intention and that of the Liberal Opposition to support the Government's war effort.

Liberal, Hon. Dr. Pugsley, and other Liberal leaders, bore this out. Having thus outlined the reasons for the extension of the war, Sir Robert went on to declare that the Government did not come to the House in a vain sense in the efforts of a suppliant. It was ready and willing at any time to submit its record to the House and was conscious of the fact that the great responsibilities which had devolved upon the Ministers had been dealt with to the best of their abilities. The House, and strain upon them all was a great one as it had been in the early stages of the war, and there was no sign of any relaxation of that strain. There were some, doubtless, in his own party who considered that the extension was not politically expedient.

"But I do not take this into account at all," declared Sir Robert. "All mere party considerations aside, the significance compared with the great issue and consequences involved in the war." In closing, he referred to the burden which he and his colleagues had shouldered, and he singled out for special mention the Hon. Minister, Sir Thomas White, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Sir George Foster, the Minister of Justice, Hon. C. J. Doherty, and the Minister of Naval Affairs, Hon. J. D. Hagen.

**CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS.**  
Sir Wilfrid at the outset dealt with the constitutional aspects of the resolution. When the Fathers of Confederation had drafted the British North America Act the intention was that the House should be a body of men, similar in principle to the constitution of the United States, in the manner of electing members, and in the manner of electing members, and in the manner of electing members.

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which had been long prepared and promulgated by the German General Staff, and was to be carried out at the end of the year 1914 found the Kaiser and his staff "pulling up" in the marshes and swamps of Flanders in a vain effort to reach the Channel. The eastern front, the Russians had gone from victory to victory. They had taken possession of the Baltic coast, the Carpathian Mountains, and they were ready to invade Hungary.

**LUSITANIA AGREEMENT**  
Washington and Berlin Both Announce a Settlement.  
Germany Claims to Have "Saved Her Face."

Washington, Feb. 8.—The Lusitania agreement, which was announced by the German General Staff, and was to be carried out at the end of the year 1914 found the Kaiser and his staff "pulling up" in the marshes and swamps of Flanders in a vain effort to reach the Channel. The eastern front, the Russians had gone from victory to victory. They had taken possession of the Baltic coast, the Carpathian Mountains, and they were ready to invade Hungary.

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